(c) whether Government considers to block State funds earmarked for protection of tigers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) Advisories have been issued to States for stepping up tiger protection, which do have site specific problems. Based on the review and deliberations held in the All India meeting of Field Directors recently, timelines have been prescribed for submission of reserve-wise indicative Tiger Conservation Plan, apart from plan for relocation of villages from the core/critical tiger habitat identified within tiger reserves. The tiger reserve States have been informed that central assistance under Project Tiger would be provided only on receipt of an indicative Tiger Conservation Plan and the prescribed MoU, duly signed by the competent authority of the State.

New Tiger Reserves

2669. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved eight new tiger reserves;

(b) if so, the names of those places/States and how tigers can be accommodated in each reserve separately;

(c) whether Government has cautioned the concerned States to ensure anti-poaching measures; and

(d) at what cost the 8 new tiger reserves would be set up and whether any Tiger Task Force would put up into action simultaneously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State-wise details of the new tiger reserves are at Statement-I (*See* below). The designated tiger reserves already have *in-situ* population of wild tigers, which would be fostered through reserve specific managerial inputs under Project Tiger.

(c) Yes, Sir. The steps taken by the Government of India to control poaching are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) The revised scheme of Project Tiger has provisions for providing funding support to the new tiger reserves. The guidelines of the said scheme would enable implementation of the Tiger Task Force recommendations.

Statement-I

Details of the New Tiger Reserves

Sl. No.	Name of the proposed new Tiger Reserve	State	Area (in sq. km.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Anamalai-Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuaries	Tamil Nadu & Kerala	1410
2.	Udanti and Sita Nadi Wildlife Sanctuaries	Chhattisgarh	1580
3.	Satkosia Wildlife Sanctuary	Orissa	988.30

1	2	3	4
4.	Kaziranga National Park	Assam	916.67
5.	Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh	963.274
6.	Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary and Anshi National Park	Karnataka	875.84
7.	Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh	831.25
8.	Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu	321

Statement-II

The steps taken by the Government of India to control poaching

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in additional to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.

3. 100% Central Assistance provided to 17 Tiger Reserves as an additionality for deployment of Tiger Protection Force, comprising of ex-army personnel and local workforce.

4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.9.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual/audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and Establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.

5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.

6. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, *inter alia*, include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.

7. Memorandum of Understanding developed for better/concerted implementation of conservation inputs through tiger reserve States.

8. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, *viz.* Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

9. Enabling provisions provided in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, through amendment in 2006, for preparing tiger reserve specific 'Tiger Conservation Plan', addressing issues relating to tiger (in the core/critical area) and people (in the buffer/ fringe area).

10. Enabling provisions provided in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, through amendment in 2006, for preparing reserve-wise Tiger Conservation Foundation, for involving local stakeholder communities.

11. Enabling provisions provided in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, through amendment in 2006, for creating State level Steering Committees by States under the Chief Minister for ensuring coordination, monitoring, protection and conservation of tiger, copredators and prey animals.

Sewage flow into rivers

2670. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set itself an ambitious target of ensuring that no sewage is drained into the 45,000 Km. river length of India by 2011-12;

(b) whether this proposal comes on the heels of a move initiated by the PMO to revamp the Rs. 3,000 crore National River Conservation Plan;

(c) whether plan covers 34 rivers and 160 towns in 20 States and has completed almost a decade of operation with questionable results; and

(d) if so, by what time final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Domestic sewage is one of the major sources of pollution in rivers. Development and maintenance of a proper sewerage system in towns and cities is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments and Urban Local Bodies. Central Government is only supplementing the efforts of the State Governments for creation of the sewerage infrastructure for preventing the discharge of untreated sewage in the rivers. On the basis of proposals received from the State Governments, projects for construction of sewerage system and setting up of sewage treatment plants in various towns are assisted under the Central Sponsored Schemes of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, as well as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewable Mission (JNNURM) and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) of the Ministry of Urban Development.

The National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) presently covers pollution abatement works in 35 rivers spread over 164 towns in 20 States of the country at an approved cost of Rs. 4863.75 crore. With the pollution abatement works completed so far in both the phases under Ganga Action Plan (GAP), the water quality of the river Ganga has shown discrenible